Diversion and Misappropriation of Funds under JRY

2800. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases regarding diversion and misappropriation of funds under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) which have come to the notice of Government so far; and

(b) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) and (b) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) is being implemented by the District Rural Development Agenies (DRDAs)/Zilla Parishads (ZPs) at the district level and by the Village Panchayats at the village level. The system of checks and balances is built into the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) so that the misappropriation of funds does not take place. The JRY resources released to the village panchayats are kept in an exclusive and separate saving banks or post office account which can be operated jointly by the Sarpanch and another person nominated by Panchayat. Every drawl from the bank is required to be authorised in the meeting of the village panchayat. The accounts of the DRDAs/ZPs/Gram Panchayats (GPs) are also subject to regular audit. Meeting of the village panchayats are to be held every month on a fixed date and time in which every member of village community can raise any issue regarding implementation of JRY. Instructions have been issued to the village panchayats to appoint a Vigilance Committee for each village under its jurisdiction to oversee, supervise and monitor the implementation of work under the Yojana. No such case regarding the diversion of funds under JRY by the States has come to the notice of the Government, however, a few cases of misappropriation of funds have come to the notice of the Government of India. Involvement of panchayats in the implementation of the Yojana in the country, has brought about the much desired transparency and the number of complaints regardng the misuse of JRY funds are relatively few. Nontheless when complaints are received in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment, they are referred to the concerned State Governments for appropriate inquiry and remedial action. Some of the State Governments have suspended the officers/sarpanches found responsible for misuse of JRY funds. Criminal cases have also been initiated against the officer/ sarpanches who have committed irregularities in the utilisation of JRY funds. No effort is spared to book the guilty.

Amount Allotted for Rural Development Schemes

2801. SHRI JOYANTA ROY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allocated to States under different Rural Development Schemes during the current financial year; and

(b) the State-wise details of the amount actually utilised so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) and (b) The total amount allocated/released alongwith corresponding utilisation in various States States during 1994-95 under major Rural Development Schemes namely (i) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), (ii) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) and(iii) accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) are given in the enclosed Statement [*See* Appendix 173, Annexure No. 57]